



United States
Department of
Agriculture



National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

Weekly Weather Crop Report

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Week ending April 20, 2008

Released: 3:00 P.M., April 21, 2008

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 4.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, April 20, 2008**. Drier conditions this week allowed producers to resume fieldwork. Many fields not protected by the Mississippi River levees are under water, but the amount of acreage relative to the state is small. Producers are assessing potential damage that a recent frost may have caused on the blueberry, watermelon, wheat, and corn crops. Preparations for peanut planting are underway. Soil moisture was rated 1 percent very short, 20 percent short, 64 percent adequate and 15 percent surplus.

Crop progress for week ending 04/20/08

| Crop | This week | Last week | Last year | 5-year average |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| Corn, planted | 87 | 71 | 98 | 91 |
| Corn, emerged | 69 | 53 | 94 | 78 |
| Cotton, planted | 1 | -- | 5 | 12 |
| Hay-Cool Season, harvested | 14 | 8 | 17 | 18 |
| Rice, planted | 32 | 8 | 33 | 37 |
| Rice, emerged | 4 | 2 | 15 | 14 |
| Sorghum, planted | 19 | 6 | 23 | 31 |
| Sorghum, emerged | 5 | 3 | 7 | 13 |
| Soybeans, planted | 24 | 8 | 38 | 43 |
| Soybeans, emerged | 7 | 4 | 26 | 25 |
| Watermelons, planted | 76 | 69 | 77 | 63 |
| Winter Wheat, heading | 69 | 25 | 86 | 66 |

Crop condition for week ending 04/20/08

| Item | Very poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|--------------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
| | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| Blueberries | 0 | 7 | 17 | 63 | 13 |
| Corn | 4 | 13 | 30 | 44 | 9 |
| Livestock | 3 | 16 | 28 | 42 | 11 |
| Pasture | 5 | 10 | 30 | 47 | 8 |
| Winter Wheat | 2 | 6 | 22 | 49 | 21 |

Comments

“Farmers have waited for warmer weather to begin planting soybeans and milo. Most producers want ideal planting conditions because of short seed supplies.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“It's been too wet to plant crops, but some burndown herbicides have been applied.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Clearer skies during the last half of the week allowed farmers to begin planting corn. The forecast looks good for this week.”

— Patrick Poindexter, Alcorn

“We need another 2 to 3 days to complete corn planting, but we will likely be stopped by rain again. A few soybeans have been planted, but most people are holding off until next week. Cotton planting has not progressed much beyond the testing of planters.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Pasture spraying is in full swing right now. The strong March winds had delayed many producers' spraying activities.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“There is good soil moisture in forages and pastures. The moisture is adequate for soybeans and grain sorghum, and we will begin planting soybeans this week. I really believe the freeze caused problems for early planted vegetables and watermelons.”

— Randy Smith, Covington

“Growers should be able to get back in the field today after about a half of an inch of rain on Friday. Some corn had to be replanted last week. Cotton planters will start today.”

— Don Respass, Coahoma

“Drying conditions were good this week, allowing corn planting to make good progress. The low temperatures and two days of frost are causing concern for the wheat, corn, and soybeans but I think that the damage will be minimal.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“We were lucky and only got about three fourths of an inch of rain on Friday. We should be back in the field by Tuesday. Very little of our wheat was in the heading stage, so hopefully the freeze did not get anything. There is some tip burn showing up.”

— Stephen R. Winter, Grenada

“Most of the winter wheat in the area did not have emerged heads at the time of the freezing temperatures and does not appear to be damaged. Disease and insect pressure continues to be low. Spring tillage and planting preparation continues as fields dry.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“With the exception of some spot replanting, corn planting is done. Soybean planting is off to a good start. Rice planting is approximately 50% complete. Approximately 50% of the wheat acreage has been sprayed to control leaf rust.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Strong winds and sunshine have dried the fields and planting is going full tilt. No cotton has been planted as ideal cotton planting weather is a week or so off.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“About a half of an inch of rain was received during the week. The cooler temperatures have slowed crop development. Corn and soybean planting is ongoing. Clovers, fescue, and ryegrass are doing well in pastures.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“The recent frost destroyed most of the wheat that had not already been taken by the flood water. Corn was also burned back to the ground but will hopefully recover. All of the bottom ground fields are under water from the flooding. Lack of soybean seed is a major problem. Many fields may remain unplanted even if the water recedes in time.”

— Cliff Covington, Claiborne

“The corn in the hill areas looks good; as a matter of fact, some areas could use a rain. The Delta is in a world of hurt. Flood waters still cover thousands of acres of farm land. We have no idea when we will be able to get back on those properties. Wheat for the most part looks good as well.”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

“Recent frosts on two different occasions will have an impact on blueberry production in the county. The frost also had an impact on wheat, corn, watermelons, and tomato plants. Producers are checking fields to assess how extensive the damage is.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Fields are being prepared for peanut planting. As soon as equipment will stand in the fields, planting will begin. Conventional watermelons are at a standstill due to cool nights. Soil temperatures will need to warm a few degrees for active growth. Blueberry growers gave a sigh of relief as temperatures needed to damage blueberries did not materialize on the 14th, 15th, and 16th. The growers now believe they are home free from cold damage. Cool season hay harvest began this week.”

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

(Additional comments appear at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>)

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

| Mississippi Weather Summary for Week Ending 04/20/08 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----|-----|------|-----|---------------|-------|-----------|------------|-------------------------|-----|-----|---------------|
| Division/Station | Air Temperature | | | | | Precipitation | | | | 4 Inch Soil Temperature | | | Avg Plan Evap |
| | Max | Min | Avg | Norm | DFN | One Week | DFN | Rain Days | Four Weeks | Max | Min | Avg | |
| Upper Delta | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lambert | 79 | 31 | 55 | | | 0.55 | -0.57 | 1 | 6.55 | | | | |
| Tunica | 76 | 36 | 56 | 62 | -6 | 0.34 | -0.99 | 1 | 8.64 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 79 | 31 | 56 | 62 | -6 | 0.45 | -0.78 | 1 | 7.60 | | | | |
| North-Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Calhoun City | 76 | 30 | 53 | 62 | -9 | 1.31 | -0.02 | 1 | 5.17 | | | | |
| Hickory Flat | 77 | 28 | 50 | 60 | -10 | 0.99 | -0.27 | 1 | 3.85 | | | | |
| Independence | 75 | 29 | 52 | 60 | -8 | 0.41 | -0.71 | 1 | 4.59 | | | | |
| Oxford | 78 | 29 | 54 | 60 | -6 | 0.75 | -0.44 | 1 | 5.05 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 78 | 28 | 52 | 61 | -9 | 0.87 | -0.36 | 1 | 4.67 | | | | |
| Northeast | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pontotoc | 74 | 33 | 53 | 61 | -8 | 1.41 | 0.12 | 1 | 6.13 | | | | |
| Ripley | 76 | 28 | 51 | 59 | -8 | 0.81 | -0.45 | 1 | 6.25 | | | | |
| Tupelo | 76 | 35 | 53 | | | 1.63 | | 2 | 5.86 | | | | |
| Verona | 76 | 31 | 53 | 61 | -8 | 1.24 | 0.05 | 2 | 4.77 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 76 | 28 | 53 | 60 | -7 | 1.27 | -0.09 | 2 | 5.75 | | | | |
| Lower Delta | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Moorhead | 77 | 34 | 56 | 64 | -8 | 0.31 | -1.02 | 1 | 5.74 | | | | |
| Rolling Fork | 80 | 35 | 58 | 64 | -6 | 0.54 | -0.76 | 1 | 5.95 | | | | |
| Yazoo City | 76 | 32 | 56 | 65 | -9 | 0.80 | -0.58 | 1 | 6.60 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 80 | 32 | 57 | 64 | -7 | 0.55 | -0.79 | 1 | 6.10 | | | | |
| Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Canton | 76 | 29 | 53 | 64 | -11 | 0.98 | -0.35 | 1 | 5.13 | | | | |
| Eupora | 76 | 30 | 51 | 61 | -10 | 1.72 | 0.46 | 1 | 4.76 | | | | |
| Kosciusko | 76 | 31 | 53 | 62 | -9 | 0.77 | -0.56 | 1 | 4.65 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 76 | 29 | 52 | 62 | -10 | 1.16 | -0.15 | 1 | 4.85 | | | | |
| East-Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aberdeen | 75 | 34 | 54 | 62 | -8 | 1.34 | 0.13 | 1 | 4.23 | | | | |
| Macon | 77 | 34 | 54 | 62 | -8 | 0.74 | -0.59 | 1 | 3.39 | | | | |
| State University | 76 | 31 | 54 | 62 | -8 | 0.67 | -0.64 | 1 | 4.28 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 77 | 31 | 54 | 62 | -8 | 0.92 | -0.37 | 1 | 3.97 | | | | |
| Southwest | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Crystal Springs | 78 | 35 | 56 | 65 | -9 | 0.77 | -0.63 | 1 | 2.31 | | | | |
| Natchez | 76 | 30 | 54 | 66 | -12 | 0.55 | -0.85 | 1 | 1.69 | | | | |
| Vicksburg | 78 | 39 | 56 | | | 0.98 | | 1 | 3.25 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 78 | 30 | 55 | 66 | -11 | 0.77 | -0.74 | 1 | 2.42 | | | | |
| South-Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Collins | 76 | 33 | 55 | 64 | -9 | 0.70 | -0.56 | 1 | 1.65 | | | | |
| Columbia | 77 | 34 | 55 | 65 | -10 | 1.67 | 0.29 | 1 | 4.33 | | | | |
| Raleigh | 77 | 27 | 52 | | | 1.09 | | 1 | | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 77 | 27 | 54 | 65 | -11 | 1.15 | -0.14 | 1 | 2.99 | | | | |
| Southeast | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hattiesburg | 75 | 36 | 55 | 66 | -11 | 0.80 | -0.46 | 1 | 3.05 | | | | |
| Laurel | 77 | 35 | 55 | 64 | -9 | 0.00 | -1.19 | | 2.43 | | | | |
| Waynesboro | 76 | 32 | 54 | 64 | -10 | 0.90 | -0.15 | 1 | | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 77 | 32 | 55 | 65 | -10 | 0.57 | -0.60 | 1 | 2.74 | | | | |
| Coastal | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| State | 80 | 27 | 54 | 63 | -9 | 0.85 | -0.45 | 1 | 4.56 | | | | |

DFN = Departure from Normal.